

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims by replacing the original claims with the following listing of claims.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1–4, 6–11 and 13. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 15, wherein scanning for the presence of proscribed code of interest further comprises scanning for viral code or viral patterns.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 17, wherein said pattern analyzer further reviews said code for the presence of viral code or viral patterns.

14. (New). The method of claim 13, including ascertaining in said suspect code the presence of one or more instructions selected from the group consisting of file open write and file open modify;

setting a pointer in a code sequence containing said one or more instructions;

setting an emergency flag;

sending to a reporter an emergency message; and

communicating an alert from said reporter to a recipient.

15. (New) A software virus detection method, comprising:

- interpreting code that is suspected of containing proscribed code with an interpreter, wherein said interpreter includes a plurality of facilities for facilitating the interpretation of a plurality of code formats and languages in source or compiled form;

- evaluatively writing with said interpreter the results of said interpretation, wherein said results of said interpretation consist of a summarily evaluation of said suspect code;

- scanning the results of said interpretation for the presence of proscribed code and identifying proscribed code in said results, and making said results available to a reporter for reporting or to a processor for further processing of said results with a processing component;

wherein the method includes ascertaining in said suspect code the presence of one or more instructions selected from the group consisting of file open write and file open modify;

- setting a pointer in a code sequence containing said one or more instructions;

- setting an emergency flag;

- sending to a reporter an emergency message; and

- communicating an alert from said reporter to a recipient.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, including, when said reporter receives an emergency message, holding said emergency message as an initial message until completion of said scanning; and wherein when the results of said scan of said interpretation for the presence of proscribed code are negative, resetting said emergency flag.

17. (New) A software virus detection apparatus comprising an article of manufacture including computer storage media that implements code, having:

- an evaluative code interpreter for interpreting code that is suspected of containing proscribed code, wherein said interpreter includes a plurality of facilities for facilitating the interpretation of a plurality of code formats and languages in source or compiled form;

- wherein said evaluative interpreter includes at least one facility for evaluatively writing with said interpreter the results of said interpretation, wherein said results of said interpretation consist of a summarily evaluation of said suspect code;

- a pattern analyzer for scanning the results of said interpretation for the presence of proscribed code;

- a results evaluator for identifying proscribed code in said results; and

- a reporter;

wherein said results evaluator makes results available to said reporter, wherein said reporter reports said results to a processor for further processing of said results with a processing component;

wherein said evaluative code interpreter further reviews said code for ascertaining in said suspect code the presence of one or more instructions selected from the group consisting of file open write and file open modify;

wherein said evaluative interpreter is configured to set a pointer in a code sequence containing said one or more instructions;

wherein said evaluative interpreter is configured to set an emergency flag; and

wherein said evaluative interpreter is configured to send to a reporter an emergency message.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said reporter is configured to receive an emergency message, and wherein said reporter is configured to hold said emergency message as an initial message until completion of said scanning; and wherein when the results of said scan of said interpretation for the presence of proscribed code are negative, resetting said emergency flag.

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, comprising means for communicating an alert from said reporter to a recipient.